

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 194, 196, 198, 200-206, 208, 210-214, and 216-238 are pending.

Withdrawn Objections and Rejections

Applicants greatly appreciate the Examiner's withdrawal of all objections and the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 112, 1st paragraph (written description) and 2nd paragraph, and the obviousness-type double-patenting rejection over U.S. Patent Nos. 7,301,009; 7,309,577; and 7,303,886.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants respectfully request that the Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying PTO/SB/08, filed July 16, 2008, be considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph (Scope of Enablement)

Claims 194, 196, 198, 200-206, 208, 210-214, and 216-238 stand rejected on scope of enablement grounds. The Office Action acknowledges that the claims have been amended to recite "95% sequence identity" and specific hybridization conditions, but requests clarification on the removal of "that responds to umami taste stimuli." Office Action, page 2.

On December 15, 2008, Applicants' representative contacted Examiner Landsman. Applicants' representative explained that the claims include functional limitations (e.g., taste receptor) and are directed to method claims. Examiner Landsman agreed that this clarification was sufficient. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

Obviousness-Type Double Patenting

Claims 194, 196, 198, 200-206, 208, 210-214, and 216-238 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over U.S. Patent No. 7,364,903.

Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer, thereby obviating this rejection.

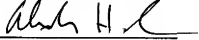
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request an indication of allowance of all claims.

If the Examiner has any questions relating to this response, or the application in general, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Please charge **Deposit Account No. 50-0206** in the amount of \$70.00 to cover the terminal disclaimer fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d) for a small entity. It is believed that no other fees are required for entry and consideration of these remarks, but should any fees be necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to **Deposit Account No. 50-0206**.

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